

Website Comment **195938**

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Comment: Comments for NE Amendment

1

This is not your home:

As you consider how, or if, to proceed with oil exploration in the critical habitat surrounding Teshekpuk Lake, I would also ask for your due consideration of animals and birds of this area. You must think of this place as their homeland, more so than your own. As human decision-makers, empowered by science that plainly proves the importance of this habitat to its animal residents (see Audubon's "Alaska's Western Arctic: A Synthesis and Summary of Resources") and human neighbors (in nearby villages), you must act responsibly and in balance with the biological and cultural patterns that have long preceded the establishment of the "petroleum reserve."

2

Keep Prescriptive Standards:

I recommend that the Bureau of Land Management take no action to amend the Northeast NPR-A Plan. I recommend leaving in place Prescriptive Standards which demand more exact and stringent standards than Performance-Based standards for exploration and development in this sensitive physical environment.

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Special Designation
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Defer leasing in Colville River Special Area

I also recommend that the Bureau of Land Management defer leasing in the Colville River Special Area, as it did in its Northwest Plan. Planning for the whole Colville should be done for the whole Colville, and not in a piecemeal fashion which fractures what is (like the rest of the Reserve) a whole ecosystem.

4

Listen carefully to NPRA village voices:

I recommend that the Bureau of Land Management respect above all other voices those from the Native communities in the NPR-A. When they say "you can't go here," don't go there!

Thank you for your consideration.

Jennifer van den Berg

Attached: None